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At Each Other's Service

Pope Paul VI .

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AT EACH OTHER'S SERVICE

The following words of Pope Paul VI were addressed to the Jewish community in Bogotá on August 23, 1968. An English version was published in *L'Osservatore Romano* on September 5, 1968, while the original Spanish text may be found in *Acta Apostolicae Sedis*, LX, November 28, 1968.

WE ARE happy to meet and salute the representatives of the Jewish community. You know that the Second Vatican Council gave serious study to the relations between the Catholic Church and Judaism. The text of the declaration *Nostra Aetate*, which we solemnly promulgated on October 28, 1965, rightly says:

Since the spiritual patrimony common to Christians and Jews is so rich, this Sacred Synod wishes to encourage and further their mutual knowledge of, and respect for, one another, a knowledge and respect born principally of biblical and theological studies, but also of fraternal dialogues.

Among the riches of this great common patrimony, we would like to recall the faith in one God, who transcends all human categories and yet is revealed as a Father (Is 63:16). He has created men in His own image (Gen 1:26-28) and we share the belief that—in accordance with the great commandment of the love of God and of our neighbor (Dt 6:5; Lev 19:18), made concrete in the "Ten Words" and in the other rules of life (Dt 5 and Lev 19)—we are called to do the will of God and to place ourselves at each other's service. God grant that all of us may one day come to share in the full glory of God in a new heaven and a new earth (Is 65:17).

We pray God to bless our efforts at fruitful collaboration for the good of the whole of humanity, until that day when all peoples will call on the Lord with one voice and "serve him with one accord" (Soph 3:9).